

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair

Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Vice Chair

GM 565 — Updated Resume

Patrick Gartside, Nominee to the State Rehabilitation Council

Monday, April 13, 2026 | 1:00 PM | Conference Room 225

Dear Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair McKelvey, and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting an updated resume in connection with my nomination to the State Rehabilitation Council under Governor's Message 565. Since my original resume was submitted, I have transitioned from my role as Executive Director of Work Now Hawaii and founded Access100, a disability-led technology organization focused on job training, disability leadership, and civic accessibility.

The attached resume reflects my current work at Access100 as well as my continued service as Chairperson of the Statewide Independent Living Council of Hawai'i and Vice Chair of the State Rehabilitation Council. I have previously submitted my questionnaire responses to your office.

I look forward to appearing before the Committee and respectfully ask for your support in confirming my appointment.

Respectfully,

Patrick Gartside, CESP, C-WIP

Founding Executive Director, Access100

Chairperson, Statewide Independent Living Council of Hawai'i

(808) 256-6767 | patrick@gartsi.de

Patrick Gartside

Honolulu, HI | (808) 256-6767 | patrick@gartsi.de

Nonprofit leader and entrepreneur with a proven track record of establishing and scaling organizations, securing funding, and driving impactful programs. Expertise in human services, workforce development, and community engagement, combined with a strong background in business operations and technology solutions.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Access100 — Founding Executive Director

Honolulu, HI | January 2026 – Present

Organizational Development

- Founded a disability-led technology organization focused on job training and disability leadership in the community, serving as sole architect of organizational strategy, technology, and operations.
- Established the organization's technology infrastructure, building and deploying production applications serving government transparency and civic engagement across multiple platforms.
- Developing 501(c)(3) application and organizational governance framework including bylaws, board policies, and compliance documentation.
- Authoring proposals and building relationships with state and federal agencies to establish contracted service lines and sustainable revenue.

Technology & Civic Innovation

- Developed Civi.Me (civi.me), a free and open-source civic engagement platform providing accessible government meeting data to the public, demonstrating Access100's technical capability while advancing civic participation for underserved communities, including people with disabilities.
- Tracked hundreds of public meetings since launching in February 2026, generating plain language summaries, standardizing formatting across fragmented government systems, and translating content into 12 languages.
- Architected all systems to meet WCAG 2.1 AA accessibility standards, ensuring full inclusion for users with disabilities.

Workforce Development & Employment Model

- Designing a workforce pipeline that channels participants from Job Training and Youth Leadership Forum into competitive technology employment.

Work Now Hawaii — Founding Executive Director

Honolulu, HI | July 2017 – September 2025

Leadership & Operations

- Founded and led a 501(c)(3) human services organization through incorporation and IRS tax-exempt designation; maintained all regulatory requirements for 8+ years.
- Built and led a high-performing team of 85 staff across Contract Services and Employment Services departments through strategic hiring, supervision, and professional development.
- Successfully secured and managed federal and state contracts generating \$10M in annual revenue.
- Developed and administered annual organizational budgets, partnering with bookkeeping and CPA teams to ensure financial oversight, regulatory compliance, and timely tax preparation.

Program Development & Service Delivery

- Created a Transition Age Youth Work Experience Program providing paid job experience for students in the Hawaii Department of Education.
- Provided job placement, coaching, and support for individuals in competitive, community-based employment, specializing in custom employment matching individual abilities to business needs.
- Delivered benefits planning services as a Certified Work Incentive Practitioner for individuals receiving government support.

- Served individuals living with intellectual and developmental disabilities, individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, and individuals living with traumatic brain injuries.
- Provided services at Hub Coworking Hawaii, an inclusive community workspace, and at remote employer work sites.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Hawaii State Rehabilitation Council — Vice Chair

July 2025 – Present

- Gubernatorial appointee (GM 565); confirmation hearing before Senate Committee on Health and Human Services, April 2026.
- Serving on the State Plan Committee, ensuring Unified State Plan policies enhance employment outcomes for individuals with disabilities in partnership with state leaders in workforce development, adult education, and employment services.

Statewide Independent Living Council of Hawaii — Chairperson

December 2022 – Present

- Grew the Council from 3 members to 15, establishing committees and working groups.
- Collaboratively developed Hawaii's State Plan for Independent Living, helping direct \$1.5M of federal funding to independent living programs across 4 major counties.

Hawaii Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE)

May 2022 – 2025

- Founded the Hawaii APSE chapter; served as founding board president (May 2022 – May 2025).
- Secured technical assistance contracts with the US Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy.
- Provided statewide technical assistance through workshops, a virtual Community of Practice, and annual Summits on Employment First.

DISTINCTIONS

The Senate of the State of Hawaii — Certificate of Honor (March 2011)

Honored for altruistic humanitarian efforts, including donating bone marrow and a kidney, and outreach into Oahu's homeless community.

City and County of Honolulu — Certificate of Honor (February 2011)

Recognized for donations of blood, marrow, and a kidney, and volunteer efforts with the Hawaii Bone Marrow Donor Registry and the National Kidney Foundation of Hawaii.

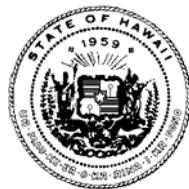
CERTIFICATIONS

- Certified Employment Support Professional (CESP) — APSE
- Certified Work Incentive Practitioner (C-WIP) — Yang Tan Institute, Cornell University

EDUCATION

- Kapi'olani Community College — Entrepreneurial Studies

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



RYAN I. YAMANE
DIRECTOR
KA LUNA HO'ŌKELE

JOSEPH CAMPOS II
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
KA HOPE LUNA HO'ŌKELE

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TRISTA SPEER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
KA HOPE LUNA HO'ŌKELE

April 12, 2026

TO: The Honorable Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair
Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

FROM: Ryan I. Yamane, Director
Lea Dias, Administrator, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

SUBJECT: **GM 565 – RELATING TO CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE STATE REHABILITATION COUNCIL, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, PATRICK GARTSIDE, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2028.**

Hearing: Monday, April 13, 2026, 1:00 p.m.
Conference Room 225 & Via Videoconference, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS), on behalf of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), strongly supports the confirmation of Patrick Gartside to the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC).

PURPOSE: The SRC was established by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. The SRC works in partnership with the DHS Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) to review, analyze, and advise on services that address the employment needs of individuals with disabilities in Hawai'i.

Mr. Gartside is seeking appointment to the SRC as a representative of the Statewide Independent Living Council as required by 34 CFR 361.17(b)(1)(i).

For over a decade, Mr. Gartside has worked to advance Employment First initiatives and employment opportunities for people living with significant disabilities. As Chair of the Statewide Independent Living Council, he has considerable skills, knowledge, and demonstrated

experience with empowering individuals with disabilities and their families through his advocacy and is a highly valuable asset to the SRC.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of Mr. Gartside's nomination to the State Rehabilitation Council.